

THE HESPERIAN

Address of William J. Bryan.

Col. William J. Bryan addressed the students in chapel this morning on the subject of Expansion. The hall was packed to the utmost and many were turned away. Much enthusiasm was manifested. The distinguished speaker was accompanied by Mrs. Bryan. He was introduced by Chancellor MacLean and spoke in part as follows: Expansion, as some call it, or imperialism as he preferred to call it, is a question that ought to be discussed. It has not as yet become a partisan question so that we can discuss it now with less violence than we can later on. The Phillipine part of the question is the most difficult. We have all decided to give freedom to Cuba and Porto Rico seems to desire to be annexed. People who talk of expansion wish to take in the Philippines whether they will or not.

The ratification of the treaty of peace took this matter of the domain of diplomacy and placed it in the hands of the people. We must settle it and, to quote from Lincoln, it is easier to make laws among friends than among enemies. We can do as we please about the matter. No one will interfere. But why will Europe not interfere? Because for a hundred years every king in Europe has feared this republic because of its democratic doctrines, and they will only be too glad when we join the ranks of empires. If all of the Filipinos should be exterminated, it would not be so great a setback to civilization as will be brought about by destruction of our principles. We can paraphrase Lincoln and say that this nation cannot endure half republic and half empire. When we plead against a war of conquest we do not plead for the Filipinos whose bodies mark our victorious march but for the 70,000,000 people whose principles of right are being destroyed.

There is no example in history where one race has ruled another except by force. Lines between races must be obliterated by the mingling of blood. Our policy, if we annex these people, must be either extermination or exploitation.

Mr. Bryan cited the English policy in India and showed that England rules India for the money there is in it and not for the good of the 300,000,000 people. He compared the progress of India under English domination with that of Japan. He showed the progress that has been made and is being made in Mexico which is today working out its own salvation.

He showed that we couldn't colonize these islands if we should wipe out all the inhabitants. England has only 100,000 people of English descent in India and she requires an army of 70,000 men to protect these 100,000.

The speaker said that this nation cannot afford to deny to any nation the rights which we claim for ourselves. He said that if some people wouldn't stand on that high platform he would build a low one for them; never do wrong unless it pays. He then proceeded to show what a curse militarism is and will become. It has armed nation against nation in Europe. Every worker in Germany is said to carry a soldier on his shoulders. If we have to govern the Phillipines by force that force must always be manifest. If America has to pay the expense of such a war, it will be paid by the great middle classes of the nation—the same classes that furnish the boys for the armies.

Mr. Bryan maintained that this nation is a world power. It has had more effect on the polities of the world than have all other nations. Republic after republic has sprung into existence. America has spread her principles not by force but by example.

Mr. Bryan said that he was a believer in destiny, but he never could recognize destiny until after it was past. He said that he was somewhat sceptical about prophecy because of his own

personal experience. In 1896 six hundred prophets had introduced him as the next president of the United States, but after election he knew that those prophets had never been appointed. He characterized this talk about destiny as a cowardly doctrine. It would make a chicken-thief of every man who woke up in the night and found a hen-roost within reach.

Let this nation prove that there is reality in the doctrine of self-government. Let it resist this temptation for land-grabbing and it will do more by this war than has been done in a hundred years.

Mr. Bryan was enthusiastically applauded many times during the address.

The Senior Prom.

The Senior "Prom" which occurred last Friday evening at the Lincoln Hotel was the most enjoyable social event of the year. Nearly fifty couples were present. The dining room of the hotel was beautifully decorated with University colors and flags. Class colors, Black and Gold, were also in abundance. The committee of arrangement consisted of Misses Gere, Bridge, Randall, Cook and Messrs. J. L. Kind, F. L. Rain, E. A. McCreary, J. D. Landis and Edgar Clark. O. D. Harmon acted as master of ceremonies. Much credit is due Mr. Harmon for the success of the affair since he acted as chairman of the committee of arrangements in the absence of Mr. Kind who was called home by the death of his father.

Delian Boys Program

The annual program of the Delian boys in the contest between the girls and boys of that society occurred last Friday evening in the chapel. The hall was crowded, both pit and gallery. The first part of the program was of a literary nature. Music was rendered by two boys' quartettes, the first consisting of O. A. Davis, C. W. Jones, R. W. McCallum and Frank Osborne; the second, of H. J. and C. F. Theobald, E. M. Dunaway and E. F. Warner. A fine paper on Benedict Arnold was read by C. W. Jones. C. F. Horner recited one of Oliver Wendell Holmes' poems in a brilliant manner. H. J. Theobald's oration on "The Angel of the Battlefield" showed careful thought and delivery.

The second part of the program was a farce entitled "The Evolution of the L. S. C." It was supposed to show the details of the organization of the literary society frat which the Nebraskan heralded in its fake letter last winter. Mephisto was an active agent in the affair. The crowd was kept in good humor by numerous jokes on members of the society and others. The Everetts and Willards of Wesleyan were guests of the Delians.

Mass Meeting.

The Union Service of the Y. W. and Y. M. C. A. which Dr. Rowlands will address will not be held next Sunday but is postponed for one week, to May 7th, on account of the address by Mr. Henry next Sunday afternoon at St. Paul's church.

Lost—A small American flag stick-pin, at or near south grandstand, day of Missouri-Nebraska ball game. Finder please leave at Chancellor's office.